# Securing New Devices in an IoT World

Without a doubt, the Internet of Things makes our lives easier and has many benefits; but we can only reap these benefits if our Internet-enabled devices are secure and trusted. Here are some tips from the STOP. THINK. CONNECT. campaign and National Cyber Security Alliance to increase the security of your Internet-enabled devices:

▸ **Keep a clean machine**
Like your smartphone or PC, keep any device that connects to the Internet free from viruses and malware. Update antivirus and anti-malware software regularly on the device itself as well as the apps you use to control the device.

▸ **Think twice about your device**
Have a solid understanding of how a device works, the nature of its connection to the Internet, and the type of information it stores and transmits.

▸ **Secure your network**
Properly secure the wireless network you use to connect Internet-enabled devices. Don't forget to use a strong password and update software regularly to protect your Wi-Fi router at home.

▸ **Understand what's being collected**
Most IoT devices require data collection. Take the time to understand what information your connected devices collect and how that information is managed and used.

▸ **Where does your data go?**
Many IoT devices will send information to be stored in the cloud. Understand where your data will reside and the security protecting your personal information.

▸ **Do your research!**
Before you adopt a new smart device, research it to make sure others have had positive experiences with the device from a security and privacy perspective.